

COAL WILL REMAIN HIGH.

Officials of the Reading Railroad Co. See No Relief for Hard Coal Consumers.

DEMAND GREATER THAN PRODUCTION.

There is No Reserve Stock to Draw On, and This, Coupled With the Scarcity of Cars, Establishes a Condition That Can Not Be Effectually Relieved.

Philadelphia, Dec. 19.—Officials of the Reading Railroad Co. hold out no hope for relief in the anthracite coal stringency this winter, despite the efforts of the company to mine and ship to its full capacity. "Under normal conditions," said one of the officials, "the anthracite production is never equal to the demand during the winter months, and the Reading and all the other anthracite companies have been obliged to draw upon the stock at various storage points to help out the demands of the trade. This year there is not a pound of coal at any of these storage points, and the consumers are dependent entirely upon the daily output of the mines. The big dealers in New England, who usually have in stock at this season of the year from 50,000 to 100,000 tons, are bare of coal and dependent entirely upon what is being shipped to them by the various companies. The company shipped from the mines during the past two days nearly 1,900 cars of coal. This means a daily production of nearly 60,000 tons.

It is stated that the Pennsylvania Railroad Co. has 3,000 of the Reading Co.'s coal cars on its tracks in the western part of the state, as well as 2,000 belonging to the Central Railroad Co. of New Jersey, and these are urgently needed in the anthracite trade. Their non-delivery, it is claimed, is causing much delay in the shipment of anthracite to points west of Harrisburg.

Reading Co. officials decline to discuss the question as to whether the advance of 50 cents a ton made in October would hold good during 1903, but they admit that it would certainly be reduced by January 1, 1903, the date fixed by President Baer for a reduction to the old rates. An operator who attended the meeting of the operators in New York stated that the advance would be retained during all of next year.

MARSHES OF THE KANKAKEE.

A Waterway to Be Cut Which Will Reclaim Hundreds of Thousands of Acres of Land.

Crown Point, Ind., Dec. 19.—Preliminary steps are under way in the northwestern counties of Indiana, including La Porte, Starke, Porter, Lake and Jasper, to erect what will probably be the largest artificial waterway of its kind east of the Mississippi river. When completed it will reclaim hundreds of thousands of acres of Kankakee marsh lands which are now regarded as worthless.

A contract has been let for the first 14 miles in La Porte and Starke counties for \$120,000. The ditch will be 50 feet wide and 16 feet deep. It is the plan of the other counties to continue the great ditch to the Illinois line, a distance of 60 miles. The total cost will be about a million dollars.

The project has been taken up by the owners of large ranches along the Kankakee. The payment is to be made by assessments on benefits derived from the ditch.

A SURE SIGN OF GOOD TIMES.

The Mail Money Records of the New York Post Office Tell Their Own Story.

New York, Dec. 19.—Mail money records have been broken in the central post office, Wednesday's transactions amounting to \$1,168,741. This included money orders issued both domestic and foreign, the certificates of deposit issued to out of town postmasters, money orders paid and money order drafts. European advices brought the information that the coming Christmas mail would be much larger this year than ever before. The Cymric, bound for New York, is said to have on board 2,600 bags of mail. The Ettrud is also coming with 1,805, the Kaiser Wilhelm Der Gross with 600, and the St. Louis with 500, a total of 5,415.

HAYTI'S NEW PRESIDENT.

Gen. Nord Proclaimed President by the Haytian Army and Takes Possession of the Palace.

Port-au-Prince, Hayti, Dec. 19.—Gen. Nord having been proclaimed president of Hayti by the army, took possession of the national palace Thursday morning.

A WALTHY JEW MENDICANT.

Want the Death of Eli Hyman, a Jew Beggar at Toronto, Canada, Revealed.

Toronto, Ont., Dec. 19.—Eli Hyman, a Jew, who begged for alms in the general hospital here, on Saturday, is dead. An examination of his clothing resulted in finding scrip worth \$31,000. Other papers showed him to be worth probably \$100,000. For 20 years he has slept in sheds and stables. He sold papers and begged.

Is Hopelessly Insolvent.

Albany, N. Y., Dec. 19.—L. S. Frost, referee in the affairs of the Imperial council, order of United Friends, has reported to the supreme court that he finds the corporation hopelessly insolvent and recommends its dissolution.

American Congress on Tuberculosis.

Atlanta, Ga., Dec. 19.—A petition has been filed here, in the superior court, asking for a charter for the incorporation of the American congress on tuberculosis.

WILL REQUIRE INVESTIGATION.

A Louisville Man Who Carried \$249,000 Insurance on His Life Found Dead from Gunshot Wound.

Louisville, Ky., Dec. 19.—It has developed that R. C. Whyne, a Louisville business man who was found dead Wednesday night in the vicinity of Jacob park, with a gunshot wound in the breast, carried insurance on his life of \$349,000, and had applications pending for \$50,000 more.

Mr. Whyne had applied for a policy of \$25,000 with the Manhattan company, and the policy was to issue December 22. Another application had been made to the Mutual of Vermont for an equal amount, and this policy was to be dated December 24. It was upon the fact that Mr. Whyne carried such a large life insurance and was said to be suffering from rheumatism that a theory of suicide is based. Coroner Kelly went to the place of death Thursday morning. He said the circumstances were such that the case would require exhaustive investigation. An inquest will be held Saturday next.

CARNEGIE NOT A SANTA CLAUS.

Denial of the Story that He Made His Daughter a Christmas Gift of His New Mansion.

New York, Dec. 19.—The Evening Post prints the following: "In our real estate columns, in our reference to the sale by Mr. Carnegie to Mr. Burden of certain lots in the 'highlands' of Fifth avenue, we spoke of Mr. Carnegie's house, which is to be a Christmas gift to his daughter. This item has been printed before and we took it to be an undisputed fact. We now learn that it has no foundation whatever, and that nothing could be less in harmony with the ideas of Mr. and Mrs. Carnegie than that their daughter should now, or ever, be burdened with great wealth. Least of all is she to be taught while in youth that she has great 'expectations,' nor expectations at all beyond a moderate competence. Neither of her parents deems great wealth a desirable possession for the morning of life, or for any part of life, except as it may be employed for the advancement of the human race."

OPERATION BY DR. LORENZ.

The Eminent Surgeon Reduces a Club Foot for a Four-Year-Old New York Girl.

New York, Dec. 19.—Dr. Lorenz, has for the first time since his arrival in New York, operated on a club foot. The patient was a four-year-old girl. Dr. Lorenz kneaded and twisted the crippled foot until it was as soft and pliable as a piece of putty. Then he deftly moulded it into its proper form, and announced that the operation was completed, and a plaster cast was fitted on the foot. The doctor said that the child should be allowed to use her foot as much as she could, after four or five days, and that it would be necessary to keep the cast on for six or seven months, after which she could walk.

TAKEN TO HIGHEST COURT.

The United States Supreme Court to Pass Upon the Missouri Fellow Servant Law.

Jefferson City, Mo., Dec. 19.—The constitutionality of the Missouri railroad fellow servant law will be tested before the supreme court of the United States. Last week the Missouri supreme court, in deciding the case of Callahan versus the Merchants' Bridge & Terminal Railroad Co., of St. Louis, held that the law applied to all classes of railroad employees. John H. Overall, for the railroad company, said under a writ of error in the federal court and appealed the case to the supreme court of the United States.

HAD BEEN DEAD FOR MONTHS.

The Body of a Supposed Farmer Resident of Cedar Rapids, Ia., Found in Idaho.

Boise, Idaho, Dec. 19.—The body of a man believed to be either Earl Bittle or Andrew Bittle, of Cedar Rapids, Ia., was found near Mountain Home, Idaho. The man is supposed to have been dead several months. In his pocket was a railway ticket from Cedar Rapids to Portland, Ore., and a purse containing \$120. The purse bears the name of Andrew Bittle.

LEFT HOME LAST MAY.

Edward Bittle Left for the West, in May Last, to Buy Land.

Cedar Rapids, Ia., Dec. 19.—Edward Bittle, whose dead body was found near Mountain Home, Idaho, left here, May 27, to buy land. He was known to have left the train at Granger, Wyo., which was the last heard of him. He was a wealthy young farmer, living at Lisbon, 15 miles east of Cedar Rapids.

Approved by the Bundesrath.

Berlin, Dec. 19.—The bundesrath has approved the tariff bill in the form in which it passed its third reading in the reichstag.

THE ANDIJAN EARTHQUAKE.

One Hundred and Fifty Lives Lost and Hundreds of Natives and Soldiers Injured.

Tashkend, Asiatic Russia, Dec. 19.—Three officials, two soldiers and 151 natives, mostly children, were killed by the earthquake which destroyed the town of Andijan, Russian Central Asia, Tuesday. In addition, 300 natives and 17 soldiers were injured, and 130 Russian residences were destroyed.

Freight Rates to Be Advanced.

London, Dec. 19.—At a conference of shippers trading with Canada, held this week at Liverpool, it was decided that the freight rates were not remunerative and it was agreed to increase them by five per cent. to ten per cent. in 1903.

A Revenue Cutter for Hawaii.

Washington, Dec. 19.—The senate committee on commerce took favorable action on Senator Perkins' bill for a revenue cutter for the Hawaiian islands.

THE NAVAL PROGRAMME.

Admiral Dewey's Christmas Holiday Itinerary for His Fleet Sent to Washington.

IT IS APPROVED BY SECRETARY MOODY.

The Approval, Cabled to the Admiral, Sets at Rest All Stories of Intention to Send a Large Naval Force Into the Waters of Venezuela.

Washington, Dec. 19.—The navy department contributed the most important developments in the Venezuelan situation over night in the form of a cablegram from Admiral Dewey announcing the proposed itinerary of the vessels of his fleet during the Christmas holidays. It is clearly seen that the plan provides for no undue concentration of ships along the Venezuelan coast, and so prudently and advisedly have its details been drawn up that Secretary Moody at once cabled the admiral the department's approval of his orders. This message will set at rest the rumors that the United States contemplates complicating the situation by dispatching a large force to La Guayra with an offset to the allied fleet.

Admiral Dewey's cablegram, dated San Juan, December 14, is to this effect:

"Proposed itinerary of vessels for Christmas holidays: Kearsarge, Alabama, Massachusetts, Iowa, Scorpion, Trinidad, Illinois, Indiana, Hist, to St. Thomas; Texas, to Pointe-a-Petrie; Chicago, Newark, Eagle to Curacao; San Francisco, Albany, Wasp, to Mayaguez; Cincinnati, Atlanta, Prairie, tugs and torpedo boats, to San Juan; Golgotha, to Mayaguez and San Juan; Olympia, Nashville and Machias, to St. Kitts; Detroit, to Antigua; Mayflower and Vixen, to Porto Rican waters and vicinity, and Dolphin to Antigua and vicinity."

In reply Secretary Moody sent the following:

"Carry out proposed itinerary. Merry Christmas."

DINNER AT THE WHITE HOUSE.

The First Formal Evening Function at the White House Since It Has Been Remodelled.

Washington, Dec. 19.—The president and Mrs. Roosevelt gave a dinner at the White House Thursday night in honor of the cabinet, to which a large number of other guests also were invited. It was the first formal evening function at the White House since its remodeling, and gave the guests an opportunity to view the many changes which have been made in the interior of the mansion. The table was set in the new state dining room, which has been considerably enlarged, thus obviating the necessity of holding large dinners in the east room.

The guests found many changes had been made in the interior of the house since last summer. The great object of interest was the east room, which had been finished in white enameled woodwork with Corinthian pilasters and panels, the windows being draped with curtains of a subdued yellow. The old chandeliers have been removed, and in their place are others designed in the form of a cascade of crystal in loops and festoons of cut glass, each chandelier being composed of 7,000 pieces. In the corners of the room are golden stands surmounting which are clusters of Roman electric lights, while the old-fashioned mantelpieces have been supplanted by others of vari-colored marble.

Will Accommodate Large Crowds.

The red, blue and green parlors also have undergone complete renovation, and make a rich showing in their respective colors. Each room has been supplied with new furniture of exquisite workmanship. The main feature of the alteration noticed as one enters the house is the removal of the staircase partition which separated the vestibule from the long corridor back of it, thus making the whole one large open space and giving a free space for moving and accommodating the large crowds which attend the evening receptions. Clusters of Roman lights on golden stands also adorn this portion of the house. The old mirrors in the vestibule have been removed and larger ones, reaching almost to the ceiling, have been put in their places. The general effect of the lower portion of the house, with the exception of the state dining room and the several parlors, is white, conforming to the outside appearance of the house and in keeping with the name of the mansion itself.

IS DEATH TO BEASTS ALSO.

Complaint Against the Poison Used to Kill Water Hyacinths in Florida Waters.

Tallahassee, Fla., Dec. 19.—Gov. Jennings has received a telegram from S. J. Silburn, of Palatka, Fla., stating that the fluid being used by the United States authorities in its efforts to kill the water hyacinths in the St. Johns river and tributaries, by spraying from a boat, is daily causing the deaths of hundreds of cattle on the ranges bordering upon these waters.

Earthquakes in Costa Rica.

San Jose, Costa Rica, Dec. 18.—Two violent earthquakes shocks were experienced here at four o'clock Thursday morning. The people of the city were greatly alarmed, but there were no casualties. Several other shocks followed at intervals. These, however, were of diminishing severity.

A Throne Nobody Wants.

Madrid, Dec. 19.—The Herald says that Don Carlos purposes to renounce his claim to the throne in favor of his son, Don Jaime.

MISERY FROM COAL TRUST.

The People Are Helpless Against the Rapacity of the Pampered Coal Barons.

The rapacity and greed of the coal barons is getting almost beyond endurance. The bituminous coal combine is equally as guilty as the anthracite trust, for it has advanced prices in about the same proportion. The coke combine has also increased prices on a par with its brother robberies. The pretense is being made by the hard coal trust that it has a hard and fast price of \$3.75 a ton at the mines, to which is added the railroad freight rate, ranging from \$1.55 to New York, two dollars to Washington, D. C., and "whatever the tariff will bear" to other points, which varies according to the competition of river and lake transportation. To these charges is added \$1.50, allowed the retailer for cartage and profit. The agents of the coal trust are, they say, obliged to agree not to charge above the prices given, that is on the basis of \$6.75 at New York, \$7.25 at Washington, D. C., and at other points according to the increased railroad charges. The facts, however, do not substantiate this scale of prices, for when the haggard householder puts in his order for coal to the agents of the trust, he is informed that his order will be booked, but delivery cannot be promised. Compelled to find coal that will be delivered immediately, the buyer finds that the independent dealers have hard coal on hand, but the price ranges from nine dollars to \$15 a ton. The natural conclusion to arrive at is that the trust is selling, at a large advance in price, to the independent dealers, instead of supplying its own agents at the advertised rates.

The rich and well to do are, of course, able to obtain coal, but the largely increased cost to the poor, vastly augmented by the profits of the small dealers, is so serious that great destitution and suffering is reported in the large cities. In New York alone it is reported that 5,000 families are unable to buy fuel, and the corporation of Greater New York has appropriated \$100,000 to purchase coal to be given to such destitute persons.

There is no doubt that the misery and suffering on account of the high price of coal will lead to a great increase of sickness and a consequent great loss of life from pulmonary and other kindred diseases.

NOTHING BUT A FARCE.

Not the Slightest Intention Among Republicans of Proceeding Against the Trusts.

Republican newspapers which are engaged in the business of kicking holes in the Littlefield "publicity" bill and the Cullom anti-trust bill may as well save their strength. There is not the remotest intention that either bill should pass. Congress may as well assume itself with these farces as to stage some other. But the republican majority really ought, in deference to the proprieties, to keep a straight face in public, and laugh in private, as the dear people are likely to hear of the satirical, fun-poking comments which are openly made by leading republicans whenever the subject is broached in or about the national halls of legislation, says the Albany Argus.

There are men, even in congress, who believe that the time has come when the exactions of monopolies, and their frank indifference to the rights and comfort of the masses, ought to be dealt with by legislation. These men honestly believed that there was some prospect of relief in the Littlefield bill. They have examined it, and to their regret they find that it is not a trust-killer, but only a time-killer. It is candidly admitted now that this much-paraded administration measure contains not one solitary provision which is not incorporated in existing laws. The Sherman anti-trust, take it as a whole, is a better and a more effective statute than the Littlefield bill would be. The "publicity" features of the pending bill are covered by existing state laws.

The Talking Man.

In his speeches last summer, which, it will be remembered, were brought to a sudden and forcible close by President Roosevelt, made a good many people believe that he was likely to attack the monopoly trust and trusts and enter upon a vigorous and sensational foreign policy without waiting for the aid or consent of congress or anybody else. His message repeated a few of the rhetorical flourishes of these addresses, but the thunder was all in the index. When it came to politics he had none, and as for recommendations he did not make bold to submit any that need cause nervousness in protected and trusted circles. It is plain enough that the privileged moneyed men of Mr. Roosevelt's party conveyed certain intimations to him on the subject of tariffs and trusts which caused him to relax his strenuousity in that direction most emphatically. Is it possible that England and Germany have sized up his vigorous foreign policy in the same manner?—Chicago Chronicle.

Tariff and Politics.

"Our past experience shows that great prosperity in this country has always come under a protective tariff."—President's Message.

Our experience also shows that great panics and long periods of commercial and industrial depression have also come under a protective tariff, for we have always had a protective tariff. The panics of 1873-9 and 1892-7 were coincident with the highest of high protective tariffs, and both of them were more protracted than that of 1857, which came under what was the nearest approach that we ever made to a tariff for revenue only.—Chicago Chronicle.

The Poor Filipinos to Be Pittied.

President Schurman, of Cornell university, in a speech delivered before the Nineteenth Century club in New York, on December 11, gave a pitiful picture of conditions in the Philippines which is much at variance with the optimistic picture drawn by President Roosevelt in his message to congress. Prof. Schurman said:

"The Filipinos are victims of famine, pestilence, wholesale loss of farm animals by disease, depression of agriculture, decline of trade and disastrous derangement of the currency. The insular government is purchasing the rice on the Asiatic continent to furnish the Filipinos with the means of subsistence." The great prosperity which republican organs and spellbinders assure us exist there, would thus appear to be a myth, invented for political purposes, and their tale of peace and plenty is made out of whole cloth.

Whether Anthracite Coal is on the free or dutiable list has been made clear by the recommendation of the president that the duty on it be removed. That settles one point concerning which certain party organs tried to keep their readers in the dark.

—Louisville Courier-Journal.

Mr. Bryan has been vindicated in one instance, at least. The fact that the price of silver has decreased is mighty convincing evidence that the thing is not controlled by a trust, and that the celebrated silver syndicate must be a myth.

—Detroit Free Press.

CHARITY AND TRUST PROFITS.

The Morgans and Rockefeller Can Well Afford to Do Something for the People.

The Standard Oil company notified its customers, December 10, that it had advanced the price of oil another cent per gallon. This is an increase of 3 1/2 cents since the beginning of the coal strike.

On December 11, Commander Booth Tucker, of the Salvation Army, got a promise, by telephone, from J. Pierpont Morgan that he would do all in his power to aid the Salvation Army to supply the poor with coal. The army is holding meetings on the corners in the tenement section of New York, for the purpose of giving instructions as to how to use porous bricks, which may be saturated with kerosene or petroleum and used for heating purposes instead of coal.

Morgan controls the coal and Rockefeller the oil trust. Each profits by the other's monopoly of high prices. The prices of both coal and oil will average 40 to 60 per cent. higher this than last year. There is almost no limit to the price which these coal and oil barons could obtain in winter for these earth commodities. Their monopoly is now complete enough, but they fear the wrath of the people too much to double prices at once. They welcomed the coal strike because it accustomed the people to higher prices.

The 3 1/2 cents per gallon advance in the price of oil means \$35,000,000 of extra profits to the trust, which paid dividends last year of \$48,000,000. The \$2.50 or three dollars per ton advance in the price of coal means \$125,000,000 or \$150,000,000 a year to the coal trust.

It pays to be a divine holder of the coal and oil properties of this country, even if a part of the profits of the business are given as charity, to the poor to help them to keep warm. If a little given in this way will keep the people quiet, while the trusts put on the screws and add another cent per gallon or another 50 cents per bushel, it is a good investment. We are at their mercy, and they are merciful to us. There is no law to compel them to give a dollar of their profits to charity. They just give out of the goodness of their hearts. We may be thankful that such wise and good agents are put in charge of the coal and oil mines of this bountiful earth.

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GOOD LOOKS AND HAPPINESS.

Beauty is Not the Only Thing Necessary to Insure Domestic Tranquillity.

Beauty in a woman is exceedingly desirable, but it is not essential to the happiness of a wedded couple, as the experience of every careful observer has no doubt shown. A man and a woman were recently discussing whether a beauty or a plain girl would make the best wife.

"When I marry she will be pretty," emphatically declared the man. "Imagine having to confront a homely woman at the breakfast table. Think of the trial it would be to kiss her good-by! Meditate on the man's state of mind who must take her to the theater knowing his old chums were making remarks about his sad lack of taste in choosing a wife."

The woman looked him over critically and smiled before replying. "If you were in love with her you might see beauty in the plainest face," she said. "One of the homeliest women I ever knew had a husband who thought her a duplicate of Venus herself and was certain all the men of his acquaintance envied him his treasure."

"As far as domestic happiness is concerned, I am inclined to think, all questions of love aside, that the plain girl would make you the best wife, even though her features do not satisfy your esthetic sense."

The man shook his head stubbornly. "Of course plain people, both women and men, sometimes think themselves handsome. I have known such cases. 'The plain girl who is to be recommended as a prize in the matrimonial market, however, is the one who knows her own shortcomings in the beauty line. This makes her properly humble and she tries to supplement her lack of good looks with more endearing charms."

"She cultivates her mind and she gives careful attention to her toilet. She is really grateful toward the man who loves her and who has chosen her in preference to her more beautiful sisters."

"Down in her heart she does not understand what he sees in her. Of course if she is wise she does not tell him so in words, but she generally has the old-fashioned grace of humility and she is determined that he shall never regret his choice. So, knowing she is not pretty, she cultivates all the gifts nature has given her with the result that she is a much better comrade and a true helpmeet."

LATEST IN HOUSE GOWNS.

They Are Oriental in Design and the Fashion Is to Have Them Train.

The newest forms of house gowns are those with Chinese inclinations. They have a flowing outline and the entire loose look which characterizes Chinese and Japanese garments, says the New York Post.

No gown, house or otherwise, is a success without its train, and the new oriental house robes certainly do train. Some of them trail for yards upon the ground, while others are lapped over so that they are not more than six or eight inches to the good where the train is concerned. But there must be that long, graceful line or the gown is not a success.

More of the handsomest of the new dresses are exquisite in their sheen. They are made of the new glazed taffeta and they are lined with the same taffeta or with cashmere. Probably the best lining is the cashmere lining, for it is soft and warm, and it gives the taffeta a body which makes it seem a great deal richer than it really is. Albattross is also used as a lining for taffeta house dresses, and really nothing could be any better.

The sleeves are the two-part sleeves, which are in such vogue on all gowns. There is an under sleeve and an outer sleeve, and the outer sleeve is very large, so that it hangs almost to the floor. This falling or angel sleeve is not at all uncomfortable, but if cut properly it is really quite the contrary, for it seems somehow to dress up the arm and hand. It should be rather scanty on top with all the fullness coming below. It is very wide and it falls away very much like the flowing sleeve, which was always a favorite.

Fruit Puffs.

One pint of flour, two teaspoonfuls baking powder, or one teaspoonful of soda and two of cream of tartar and one and a half teaspoonful salt. Sift all together; then stir in sweet milk until a thick batter is formed. Put

tablespoonful of batter into tea-cups until half the batter is used. Place on it any kind of canned fruit, preserves or steamed apple, without the juice. Put a spoonful of batter on top of fruit in each cup. Set the cups in a steamer and steam 20 minutes. Eat with whipped cream sauce or cream and sugar, or a sauce prepared of the fruit juice.—Boston Globe.

Scalloped Okra.

Wash a quart of fresh young okra, trim and boil tender. Drain and put a layer in a well-buttered baking dish, season with salt and pepper, cover with bits of butter and coarse bread crumbs; moisten these a little with cream. Add more okra and then seasoning, crumbs, etc., having the top covered with crumbs. Moisten with cream and dot with bits of butter and bake in moderately hot oven until browned nicely.—Washington Star.

Ingenuity.

George—You know Ethel told Jack that lips that touched liquor should never touch hers.

Clara—Yes.

"Well, when Jack takes a cocktail now he always takes it through a straw."—Somerville Journal.

Useless.

Mr. Smith—You are looking for work, are you? Well, I think I can find something for you to do.

Uncle Eph—Scuse me, boss; but it ain't fo' mahself I'm lookin' fo' wuhk—it's fo' mah wife.—Judge.

A 50-Cent Calendar for 6 Cents.

If you want one of the handsomest calendars